

CLAIMS

1. A wound dressing composition comprising a chitosan and an oxidized cellulose.

5

2. A wound dressing composition according to claim 1, wherein the chitosan and the oxidized cellulose are intimately mixed in the wound dressing composition.

3. A wound dressing composition according to any preceding claim, wherein
10 said oxidized cellulose is in the form of dispersed fibers or powder.

4. A wound dressing composition according to any preceding claim, wherein said oxidized cellulose and chitosan are dispersed in a semi-solid or solid vehicle for topical application.

15

5. A wound dressing composition according to any preceding claim, wherein the oxidized cellulose comprises oxidized regenerated cellulose (ORC).

6. A wound dressing composition according to any preceding claim, wherein
20 the oxidized cellulose and the chitosan together make up at least 25% by weight of the material on a dry weight basis.

7. A wound dressing composition according to claim 6, wherein the oxidized cellulose and the chitosan together make up at least 50% by weight of the material
25 on a dry weight basis.

8. A wound dressing composition according to any preceding claim, wherein the composition further comprises from about 0.01 to about 5% by weight on a dry weight basis of one or more wound healing therapeutic substances.

30

9. A wound dressing composition according to any preceding claim, wherein the composition is a flexible film.

10. A wound dressing composition according to any preceding claim, wherein the composition the weight ratio of chitosan to oxidized cellulose is from 1:10 to 10:1.

5 11. A wound dressing composition according to claim 10, wherein the weight ratio of chitosan to oxidized cellulose is in the range 1:4 to 4:1.

12. A wound dressing comprising a wound dressing composition according to any of claims 1 to 11.

10

13. A wound dressing according to claim 12 which is sterile and packaged in a microorganism-impermeable container.

14. Use of a wound dressing composition according to any of claims 1 to 11 for
15 the preparation of a dressing for the treatment of a wound.

15. Use according to claim 14, wherein the wound is a chronic wound.

16. Use according to claim 15 wherein said chronic wound is selected from the
20 group consisting of venous ulcers, decubitis ulcers and diabetic ulcers.

17. A method of separating cell growth factors from a biological sample or organism, said method comprising: contacting said biological sample or organism with a composition according to any of claims 1 to 11, the contacting being carried
25 out in vivo or in vitro, to bind the growth factors to the composition, followed by removing the composition from the sample or organism.

18. A method according to claim 17, further comprising the step of recovering the bound growth factors from the composition after said step of removing.

30

19. A method of preparing an active wound dressing material comprising the steps of:

- (i) contacting a composition according to any of claims 1 to 13 with a biological medium containing cell growth factors to bind the cell growth factors to the material; and
- (ii) washing the drying the material having the cell growth factors bound thereto
- 5 to form said active wound dressing material.

20. A method according to claim 18 or 19, wherein the cell growth factors comprise platelet derived growth factor.

10

15